

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 will be pending in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

Attached is an executed supplemental declaration from the inventors updating inventor Denu's address and including the title of the invention in the declaration. This is responsive to item 2 of the Action.

The Official Action raises various formal objections directed to the Abstract and specification and lack of clarity directed to certain aspects of the claims. No prior art has been applied to the claims.

This Amendment makes the following changes.

The Abstract has been amended to replace "comprises" with the more conversational "includes". Appropriate topical headings have been included in the specification. With them is included a Brief Description of the Drawings. Figures 1-3 find basis in the description at page 7, lines 4-6 and the description of the installation of Figure 4 is found on page 4, lines 28-31.

The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention. The examiner raises various questions as to antecedent basis and, where appropriate, the word "the" has been either changed to "a" or deleted entirely.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete "the" in step a) and add "to form an aqueous dispersion" which would naturally be the result of dispersing a feed sample in water. In steps d) and f) the word "the" is deleted. Claim is also amended to replace the objected-to expression "having a polarity similar to but different from 25-hydroxycholecalciferol.." to refer to the standard compound as "a derivative of, an isomer of, or an isotopically labeled 25-hydroxycholecalciferol...". Basis for this change appears in the description at page 2, beginning at line 31.

Claim 6 has been canceled thus mooted the objection to it with respect to a trademark.

Claim 7 has been adjusted to refer back to the HPLC of step e) of claim 1 and is consistent with the description at page 4, lines 23-26.

The "such as ..." portion of claim 8 has been deleted.

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It is counsel's understanding that these changes made to the specification and claims will place the application in condition for allowance. If for any reason this is not the case the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to deal with any issues that may be remaining.

Favorable action and allowance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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